

As a long-time bird lover and someone who is ever more dismayed at the decline in quality of the natural world, I believe the American people should do all in their power to reduce the kill of songbirds at communication towers, regardless of whether those birds are currently threatened or endangered species. The human environment, which includes the birds that uplift our spirits and that play important ecological roles, will certainly suffer if we do not.

The Federal Communication Commission still fosters an antiquated aviation obstruction lighting system that involves permanent lighting. Scientific research shows that birds are attracted to permanent lighting on low cloud ceiling nights. Research also shows that flashing lights do not cause this phenomenon. If the FCC changes its aviation obstruction lighting to require just flashing lights, all evidence suggests that the bulk of bird mortality at towers will be alleviated.

I strongly suggest that the FCC immediately changes to mandate the use of flashing lights at all communication towers under its jurisdiction.

Yours truly

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